

SUSSEX INCIDENT MAY INVOLVE AMERICA IN MORE DIPLOMACY

It Has Been Established By
the State Department that
No American Lost His Life
On Board Channel Steamer.

LOSS OF BOAT MAY
PRECIPITATE TROUBLE

President and Lansing Are
Plainly Worried Over the
Situation. Germany May
Be Asked to Explain.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, March 27.—With all evidence indicating that the British channel steamer Sussex, carrying American citizens, was the victim of a torpedo, it was stated authoritatively here tonight that if a German submarine made the attack, the Imperial government would disavow the act, punish the submarine commander, offer reparation and satisfy the United States that the act was in violation of instructions. Thus it seemed tonight that the issue might narrow down to the question of whether the United States would be willing to accept such action by the German government. President Wilson is awaiting, with deep concern, the receipt of conclusive evidence not only in connection with the Sussex, but as to the sinking of the British steamer Englishman. One American life is said to have been lost when the Englishman went down.

Already it was intimated at the state department, the United States has in its possession information sufficient to warrant the making of an inquiry of the German government as to whether any of its submarines fired a torpedo at the Sussex or the Englishman.

The president holds the opinion that all the details available should be at hand before definite action of any kind is taken. He described the situation to callers as being grave but said no decisive step would be taken pending the receipt of additional facts.

It is known that the President is seriously considering going before Congress and laying the entire question of submarine warfare before that body.

Certainly he will communicate the situation in full to Congress before taking any definite steps which might lead to the severance of diplomatic relations.

All phases of the situation probably will be discussed at the cabinet meeting tomorrow.

Official expression of the attitude of the administration was avoided today but high officials made no attempt to minimize the situation which will confront the United States if it is established conclusively that a German submarine sank the Sussex an unarmed, peaceful passenger carrying vessel in violation of rights of humanity the principles of international law and the solemn assurances of regarding the conduct of submarine warfare which have been given to the United States by the Central European powers.

President Wilson was in constant communication with Secretary Lansing during the day and all reports received from consular agents and diplomatic representatives were sent to the White House as soon as they were received.

Among the President's callers was Chairman Stone of the Senate committee on foreign relations.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, who was chiefly responsible for the retirement of Grand Admiral Von Tirpitz has been out of town for several days, but is expected to return to the capital tomorrow. He probably will communicate with Secretary Lansing.

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VILLA ESCAPES FROM CORDON OF DEFACTO TROOPS

Manner in Which Bandit Got
Away from the Region of
Namiquipa Brings Suspicion
Upon First Chief's Efforts.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

SAN ANTONIO, March 27.—Francisco Villa's escape from the region about Namiquipa following his victory over a part of the Mexican troops, was unopposed by other detachments of the de facto government forces, according to unofficial but credible reports reaching here today.

The cordon of troops that the Mexican authorities announced should have been drawn across his path, save way, according to these reports, with a willingness that indicated their cooperation with him rather than with the American forces.

Army men here are inclined to believe reports of inefficiency and half-hearted cooperation. Reports from General Pershing to Gen. Funston dealt only with routine subjects, principally having to do with the transporting of supplies. The positions of troops were not revealed but it was known that the cavalrymen were still riding hard along the track left by Villa. Officers of the quartermaster's department studied the best methods of getting provisions, especially supplies for the horses and mules, to the field army, while Gen. Funston and his staff anxiously studied the may, referring frequently to the scale of miles that showed the advanced cavalry columns rapidly nearing points 200 miles away from the border.

It was realized here that the early capture of Villa would be little better than an accident.

Villa and his followers, it is stated, will have no difficulty in keeping ahead of the pursuing Americans. Their hope for an early ending of the chase is that Carranza troops will finally check Villa's flight or that Villa himself, after pointing one or more of his wandering bands in southern Chihuahua or from northern Durango, may decide to fight it out with the steadily advancing cavalry of the punitive force.

That Villa will be able to effect a juncture with a considerable force before he is brought to a stand is regarded at headquarters here probable. Canuto Reyes, one of his generals, who has been operating in the vicinity of Torreon, is known to have exceedingly mobile force that is by no means negligible and in the state of Durango it is said the Arrieta brothers are in a position to move northward to his support.

Unofficial observers have offered a theory, regarded as somewhat fanciful by American military men, that Villa, after joining these and others, will continue his movement to the south with hope of gathering strength as he goes and with Zapata and other enemies of the Carranza government, attempt once more to gain possession of Mexico City. Although this theory is little credited at headquarters, it is realized that he probably can go about as far as he like now without seeing an American soldier for many weeks.

General Funston will continue his headquarters here although it is probable that he will go to El Paso a few days for a brief stay.

"AMEN" SAYS THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The House today expunged from the congressional record the vituperative and denunciatory language inserted under the leave to print privilege by Representative Davis of Texas in a speech on Texas politics.

"Amen" chorused the House as the vote was taken.

Representative Davis sprinkled all the debates with "a-mens."

Admiral Fisk Says Navy Is But Half Equal to Germany's

Naval Officer Who Dares Dan-
iels on Preparedness Meas-
ure, Tells House Commit-
tee Some Interesting Facts.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

Day in Congress:
Met at noon.
Reports conference on Mexican situation. Debate on Indian appropriation bill was resumed.

Senate army bill was reported as a sub for the House bill.

Financial committee consider free sugar repeal.

Thomas Taggart sworn in as senator from Indiana.

Adjourned at 5:30 p. m. to noon Tuesday.

Met at noon.

Military and naval affairs committee held hearings on national defense. Debate on the immigration bill was continued and a motion to strike out the literacy test was defeated.

Representative Copley called for an investigation of border situation.

Adjourned at 6:13 p. m. to 11 a. m. Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—With the explanation that "he hated to say it," Rear Admiral Bradley A. Fiske, formerly aide for operations, told the House Naval Committee today that in fighting strength the United States navy was only about half as strong as Germany. He discussed the subject reluctantly, but in response to questions expressed the opinion that all things considered, two to one would not be very far away, in estimate of the comparative strength of the German and American fleets.

The admiral declared that the navy was not getting value received for money expended and was only about 75 percent what it should be under the present administration.

His disagreement with Secretary Daniels over the measure of preparedness that he believed necessary, caused his resignation, as aide for operations and asserted that there were no present disputes.

Naval Constructor Emory S. Land testified that including the boats nearly completed and five at Panama, fourteen submarines could be made available for war service immediately or within thirty days. Of the 18 submarines of the Atlantic Fleet, he said 13 were available. Construction of large seagoing submarines of the 800 ton type was strongly urged by Mr. Land.

MEXICAN BANDITS ATTACK RANCH NEAR THE TEXAS BORDER

Caretaker of Property is Badly
Beaten by Marauders of the Inter-
national Boundary.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

EL PASO, March 27.—The ranch of C. E. Kelly, former mayor of El Paso, 32 miles east of here, was raided tonight by Mexican bandits who drove off a number of cattle and badly beat the caretaker.

Two detachments of the Eighth Cavalry are in pursuit of the bandits. One troop started at full gallop from Fabens, two miles from the ranch. A second left Ysleta, some miles on the other side, at the same time in an effort to cut them off from the river.

The alarm was given by an unknown woman who got a telephone call in to Captain Moses, in command of the troops at Fabens.

General Bell announced late tonight that the troops that had been sent to pursue the Mexicans who were reported to have raided the Kelly ranch had returned and reported that they had found no trace of the raiders. The officer in charge said that he had interviewed the Mexican caretaker, who was supposed to have been beaten, and that his story was so conflicting as to discredit the entire account of the raid.

REPUBLICANS MAY SUPPORT WILSON'S ACTIONS

Minority Senate Members
Meet But Do Not Decide to
Fore An Issue with Wil-
son Administration.

PROPOSED PROTOCOL
STILL IS UNSIGNED

First Chief Still Wants Further
Concessions by the U. S.
Motor Equipment Purchas-
ed to Remedy Trouble.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Failure of Senate Republicans to take any action at a conference today on the Mexican situation left the administration unhampered in dealing with the problem.

The conference was called to consider steps to force the despatch of additional troops to the border for patrol duty. In the face of official advice denying alarming reports, however, and of Gen. Funston's apparent confidence that he has enough men for any present emergency, the Republicans adjourned with some of their leaders agreeing that there was nothing to do but support the administration's plans at this time.

Official advice confirmed press dispatches telling of the physical difficulties encountered by Gen. Funston in keeping a 200 mile supply line in operation through the use of all roads.

While there is no shortage of food or supplies for the troops, the front, cavalry mounts already are short of oats.

Steps to meet the situation have been taken by Secretary Baker, as there is no indication of an early agreement on the proposed protocol providing for the use of the Mexican lines by American troops. Mr. Baker issued this statement late today:

"All information the Department has from the border shows conditions to be quiet and the excitement of the last few days allayed. We have no dispatches that confirm the reports that American troops have been engaged."

"The expedition is moving forward, lengthening the line of communication. For that reason, Gen. Funston has requested, and the Department has purchased two automobile truck equipments, comprising fifty-five cars in all. In addition to that Gen. Funston has requested that the Department purchase two additional aeroplanes to be of service, both in reconnaissance work and in carrying messages from the advance column to the base at Columbus. Of the aeroplanes already there, two have been destroyed. Others have need of replacing parts, but two of them are in actual continuous service. The Department is now negotiating for the purchase of additional aeroplanes, but neither the number nor type has been yet determined."

"Wireless communication is reported to be intermittent because of the static conditions in the electric field, for that reason the administration is being given very little information as to the actual conditions at the front."

The Secretary said the destruction of two army aeroplanes had not been explained as yet to the Department. Four of the remaining six machines on the border were under repair, leaving two of the original eight in actual service.

The army has plenty of aviators to operate the machines that will be purchased. Mr. Baker added. He said that while the Aero Club had volunteered the services of its men and machines, the law forbade their acceptance.

The negotiation of a protocol covering the use of the Mexican railways and other matters beyond the border, encountered a delay today with the receipt of Gen. Carranza's suggestion as to modifications and additions to the plan worked out by Counselor Polk of the State Department and Eliseo Arrondonado, ambassador designate.

Mr. Arrondonado handed the communication to Secretary Lansing who refused to comment. It is thought, however, that the suggestions will require considerable study, and possibly further interchanges with Gen. Carranza.

General Carranza desires to delay replying to the request of the United States of certain terms under the protocol until his cabinet has agreed to it, but the State Department will press for prompt action on the protocol. It is reported that a week or more may pass before the terms can be put in final shape.

The army in Mexico, however, will not wait for the slow processes of diplomacy for the reason Gen. Funston will be supplied promptly with enough motor transportation to establish and maintain a fully equipped supply system.

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"VILLA CLOSELY PRESSED."—GAVIRA.

QUERETARO, March 27.—The Minister of War, Gen. Obregon, today received advice from Gen. Gavira describing another severe blow inflicted on Villa bandits on the north of Namiquipa. The date on which the battle was fought is not mentioned, but Villa and his followers were said to be surrounded.

In the skirmish, the dispatch says, thirteen bandits were killed and several horses and a number of stands of arms were captured.

Gen. Gavira declared that Villa was being so closely harassed as to make his capture a question of only a short time.

General Cesario with all his forces, left here this afternoon for Mexico City where he will succeed Gen. Pablo Gonzales in command. It is reported that Gen. Carranza, the members of his cabinet and other government officials will leave here for Mexico City in a few days. The trip will be in the nature of a visit only, the President and his party returning shortly to Queretaro, which will remain the capital for the present.

PRIMARY TODAY WITH BUT FEW CONTESTS IN SIGHT

Two Tickets in Field for Vot-
ers Heavy Registration is
Had But Vote is Not Ex-
pected to Be Heavy.

With a registration on a large scale, but which promises to bring out a comparatively light vote today, the primary for city election approaches with weather forecasts good and with every indication for an interesting contest.

There are but two tickets in the field at this election; the democratic and republican. The socialists and progressives failed to nominate tickets.

Though there is considerable interest in several parts of both tickets yet it is forecasted that the vote will, probably, be light on account of the general trend in both parties of lack of opposition.

In democratic ranks there are three contests for city officers and one contest for precinct committeemen.

I. B. Tomlinson and Frank Walsh are candidates for the nomination of city clerk and C. A. Bailey, Nels Okerstrom and A. E. Sheppard are candidates for nomination of supervisor of streets. In the third ward J. M. Connolly, Sam E. Cowan, Wm. Delbridge and H. M. Jacobs are candidates for the aldermanic nominations. Keen contests are anticipated in all of these instances.

In the first ward the democrats have failed to put the required two candidates on the ticket. Consequently it will be necessary for the "faithful" to insert the name of some man upon the ballot.

On the republican ticket there are but two candidates; one for street supervisor in which E. W. Ranes and Barnes Tustin are candidates, and one for alderman from the third ward. In this case there are three candidates while but two are necessary. The three men are: B. L. Smith, B. T. Watkins and Griff J. Williams.

The polling places today will be at the following locations: Ward 1, City Hall; Ward 2, Hughes Block, room facing Y. W. C. A.; Ward 3, Hogan and Seed's office on Main Street.

The following is a complete list of the several candidates in today's primaries:

For Mayor:
Republican: W. R. Tonkin.
Democratic: I. C. E. Adams.

For City Marshall:
Orson P. McRae.

Democratic: James Allison.
For City Clerk:
Republican: Martin L. Butler.
Democratic: I. B. Tomlinson, Frank Walsh.

For Supervisor of Streets:
Republican: E. W. Ranes, Barnes Tustin.

Democratic: C. A. Bailey, Nels Okerstrom, A. E. Sheppard.

For Alderman, Ward 1:
Republican: George W. Bunker, Joe Muhlen.
Democratic: Dan Walsh.

For Alderman, Ward 2:
Republican: A. J. Applin, C. W. Ruth.
Democratic: R. A. Davidson, Jacob Erickson.

For Alderman, Ward 3:
Republican: Bertram L. Smith, B. T. Watkins, Griff J. Williams.
Democratic: J. M. Connolly, Sam E. Cowan, Wm. Delbridge, H. M. Jacobs.

BILL WILL PASS

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The immigration bill with its literacy test provision intact, will pass the House probably tomorrow night. The literacy test, barring with exceptions all aliens over 16 years, physically capable of reading, who cannot read English language or some other language of district, was approved today by the House working as a committee of the whole, by a vote of 225 to 82.

This presaged the passage of the bill by an overwhelming majority despite the record of presidential vetoes of similar measures on account of the literacy test.

2000 CARRANZA TROOPS ARRIVE NEAR CUMPA SONORA

Gen. Arnulfo Gomez in Com-
mand, Visits Agua Prieta
for a Conference with Gen.
P. Elias Calles.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

DOUGLAS, March 27.—General Arnulfo Gomez, commanding a column of two thousand de facto Mexican troops, arrived in Agua Prieta this afternoon for a conference with General P. Elias Calles, military governor of Sonora. Gomez left his column in the vicinity of Cumpas and Montezuma, approximately 150 miles south of the border.

The new troops will be stationed at Esqueda, thirty-five miles south of Douglas at Cabullona, where General Calles previously had established his forces, retaining but a small number in Agua Prieta, opposite here. The new troops movement is said by Mexican officials to be for the purpose of establishing a mobile force in a position where it can strike rapidly northeast or southeast in protecting the Chihuahua border from any attempts on the part of Villa to enter Sonora.

Esqueda is the railroad station for El Tigre, situated 35 miles eastward, and that camp can be protected also, it was stated. It was not said whether the new forces are bringing any artillery.

A United States army aeroplane was sighted Saturday afternoon at El Tigre, hovering over the camp for several minutes at a height of approximately 4000 feet according to American soldiers today. The flier aroused much interest among the Mexican troops. The biplane was well handled and was at least twelve thousand feet above the sea level, the El Tigre mountains having an altitude of eight thousand feet. The machine flew due east toward Casas Grandes, after completing what appeared to be observations for several minutes in all directions from the line.

General Alvaro Obregon, secretary of war of the de facto government, has ordered the dismissal of all government employees paid in gold according to advice received by consul Ives G. Leveier. This will affect American employees, such as engineers and secretaries, all of who were paid in gold or its equivalent.

Sheriff Harry C. Wheeler of Cochise county, Arizona, denied today that he intended to go to Cabullona to inspect the main troops stationed there, as had been reported.

Aero Corps In Mexico Establishes Field Stations In Connection With New Base

(By Review Leased Wire.)

FIELD HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN PUNITIVE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE—Colonial Dublan, Chl. Mex., March 27.—(By wireless to Columbus, N. M., Mar. 27)—Announcement that American army headquarters aero corps has established field stations in connection with the new army base 120 miles south of Casas Grandes, was made here tonight. From these stations the six army planes, now in operation, are flying in scouting service to the extreme front in the Namiquipa district, approximately 250 miles south of the border, where the columns of American cavalry are pursuing Villa.

Reports here tonight, however, indicated that there has been no engagement of any sort, and that quiet prevails at all points along the American line.

On two or three occasions when the machine of numerous appliances, but who did not offer to destroy or seriously damage the plane itself. Some of the scientific instruments which they took, could hardly be of value in a bandit's trade but seem to have been taken out of curiosity.

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VILLA FLEES SOUTHWEST INTO THE SIERRAS

Bandit's Flight is Precipitating
Pursuit on the Part of the
American Forces Around
Advanced Headquarters.

RAILROAD SITUATION
COMMANDS ATTENTION

Better Feeling is Said to Ex-
ist Between Mexicans and
American Men Since Latter
Have Been Spending 'Plata'

(By Review Leased Wire.)

CASAS GRANDES, March 27.—(By wireless to Columbus)—Villa is flying southward toward the foothills of the Sierras. According to army reports received here today the rapidity of his flight is precipitating the American pursuit. All arms of the service are being used in an attempt to force the bandit into a corner.

The Mexicans, residents of this section which has been ravaged time and again by Villistas, are freely giving information concerning his flight, supplies, armament and strength, to the American military authorities. While much of this information has been too indefinite to be of value, it is presumed that the knowledge that the Americans are kept informed as to his movements, has influenced the bandit to the greatest haste in his retreat.

Although the United States troops are following closely in his wake, so far it is stated, no fighting has taken place.

EL PASO, March 27.—With the conviction that the capture of Pancho Villa was going to prove a long and tedious one, attention here was turned once more tonight on the railroad situation. Dispatches from Washington and San Antonio showing that the United States military authorities were becoming increasingly impatient, for the completion of arrangements with Gen. Carranza for the use of the Mexican roads, confirmed the belief held here for the last week that the railroad problem was the present crux of the situation.

Army officers here privately admit that the question of getting adequate supplies to the forces at the front is growing serious. They say that the present system of motor transportation across the Chihuahua desert has proven entirely inadequate and as Gen. Pershing's columns push farther into the desolation of western Chihuahua the supplies problem is growing acute.

The advance corps of the expeditionary force is now well over 250 miles from the frontier and every day presumably adds many miles to the thin line of communications.

The sandstorms which swept across the Chihuahua wastes are similar to the simoons which have again and again wiped out caravans in the Sahara desert. Mormon colonists and American ranchmen agree that nothing but a railroad can cope with nature in this dreary region. Even if

(Continued on Page Two.)

Columbus, Ohio, Threatened With Full Repetition of Disastrous 1913 Floods

(By Review Leased Wire.)

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 27.—Less than two feet of levees tonight was holding the rising waters of the Scioto River, preventing a flood which earlier in the day had threatened to equal that of 1913. Thousands of persons moved from their homes to higher ground. Chances tonight favored a passing of the floods crest without a break in the levees. Cessation of today's downpour in the upper Scioto Valley and the coming of slightly cold weather quited the anxiety of the 30,000 residents of lowlands in this city.

Normal business and school sessions are suspended in the district threatened, while residents carried their household furnishings to second stories, moved them hastily in vans to places of safety or fled across the river with only their personal belongings.

Ambulances sped through the streets all day carrying invalids and prospective mothers from the west side to hospitals or homes of friends in higher sections.

PEOPLE SEEK SAFETY

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 27.—Scores of families on the west side of the city where the 1913 flood took more than 90 lives moved out of their homes for higher ground today because of a continued rise in the Scioto River. The weather bureau issued a warning that river would go to 26 feet but declared there was no danger of a serious flood. The levees were raised to 21 feet after the 1913 flood.

All day long a steady caravan of people carrying household goods, provisions, and clothing streamed eastward over the bridges. Refugees both invaded the state capital and prepared to spend the night. More rain is forecasted for Columbus tonight. Flood conditions are reported from other points in Ohio.